

Echt & Skene Community Council

Minute of Meeting held 1st June 2023 at Dunecht Hall

Present: Fiona Bick (chair), Nick Pilbeam (vice-Chair), George Glennie (Secretary), Ian MacMaster, Niall McBeath, Paula Houston, Cllr Fatima Joji, 2 Dunecht residents, 5 Echt residents.

Apologies: Cllr Craig Miller, Cllr Ron McKail

Minute of last meeting: Approved

Police Report: Police Report received for April-May. There were 3 road accidents reported during the period and 1 motorist charged with speeding in the 20 mph primary school limit. Echt residents asked if the Police could do more speed checks in Echt. **Action:** Fiona to feed back to the police

SSEN Consultation on Proposed new Kintore to Tealing 400kV OHL: SSEN held a public exhibition at Milne Hall on 9th May. Subsequently, a group of Kirkton of Skene residents did a leaflet drop of houses within the preferred route corridor and arranged a public meeting on 25th May to raise awareness. The meeting was advertised on local social media groups as well and was very well attended, and included residents from all ESCC settlements. The deadline for the submission of comments on the scheme has been extended to 23rd June. At least three anti-pylon FB groups along the proposed route have been formed, and Andrew Bowie MP is also taking action following representations from constituents. All residents are encouraged to give their views to SSEN.

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

A2B Bus Service: Council Transport Unit consulted on 4 options for expanding the service for Echt. They sent direct letters only to people who used the service in the last 3 months but anyone could respond. ESCC also advertised the consultation and received 7 responses which were forwarded to the Council. We await further news.

Speeding Issues in Dunecht, Echt, Garlogie, Lyne of Skene and Mason Lodge: No update from Chris. Echt residents at the meeting complained about frequent HGV movements on the B977 at South Kirkton (believed to be associated with the SSEN OHL upgrade from 275 to 400 kV) making it even more hazardous for pedestrians where there is no footpath. **Action:** Fiona to write to SSEN project team

Community Action Plans: Kirkton of Skene CAP Steering Group held their validation event at the Milne Hall on 27th May and are now collating the results of the 36 people who attended in person, as well as others who submitted their responses online via a QR code.

Echt CAP Steering Group still needs to recruit new members, including a Chair, from the village, before the CAP process can move forward here. Echt residents questioned why the South Kirkton footpath and glass recycling bins were no longer on the ESCC agenda. Chair responded that ESCC needs to be able to demonstrate these items are supported by a majority of residents before they can be put to the Council. **Action:** Fiona to send wording to Paula for her to advertise for new Steering Group members via the residents' email list and noticeboard.

Flooding at Greystones: Scottish Water work appears to have been completed to reroute the water supply pipes away from the culvert but confirmation will be sought from them that this is the case.

Echt Playpark Improvements: Paula will be discussing the suggestions from residents for playpark improvements with Landscape Services.

Burnside Footpath: No update.

Proposed Dunecht Footpath: The project was awarded funding from the Garioch Area Strategic Budget on 30th May to carry out first stage feasibility.

Hill of Fare Proposed Wind Farm: 6 Community Council Chairs (or their deputies) met again on 15th May and agreed to ask RES for tables at their second round of public exhibitions so that we can do our own parallel survey of opinions again. We were asked by the ECU to comment on the Gatecheck report submitted by RES (this is to ensure they've covered all the matters required before submitting the final application). ESCC responded to say no consultation had been carried out with the CC's on viewpoints for the LVIA, contrary to the ECU's Scoping Opinion recommendation.

New Planning Applications:

- APP/2023/0919 Non Compliance with Condition 1 (Time) and Condition 23 (Restoration) of Planning Permission Reference APP/2013/1856 Determination of Conditions for Mineral Site for Extension to Existing Workings - Craigenlow Quarry, Dunecht, AB32 7ED Niall will review the documents including EIA and make recommendation for ESCC response.
- APP/2023/0790 Installation of Temporary Marketing Suite & Associated Temporary Car Parking Including Erection of 1.8m High Fence - Land East Of Forbes Park Echt Westhill – No comment
- APP/2023/0776 Re-roofing and Restoration and Reglazing of Pavement Lights -Tower Lodges South Dunecht Westhill Aberdeenshire AB32 6YJ – No comment

Prior Planning Applications:

- APP/2022/2257 Erection of 25 Dwellinghouses, Associated Infrastructure, Access, Landscaping, Drainage, SUDS and Open Space - Land North Of Forbes Park, Echt – APPROVED by GAC on 9th May.

Treasurer's Report:

Expenditure since last meeting - £12 for hall fees

Cash in Bank: £8,110.71 (£5,400 ring-fenced for Echt play-park equipment installation; £2,710.71 general ESCC funds)

Cash in hand: £39.89

Members agreed to fund £200 towards the purchase of new flower barrels for Echt, and the purchase of two additional keys for the Echt noticeboard.

Correspondence/Consultations/Upcoming Events:

- Kintore Battery Storage Compound – ESCC has been consulted about the EIA. The deadline for responses is 4th July. **Action:** Fiona to review
- Craigenlow Quarry extension – see above under planning applications
- Scottish Parliamentary Boundary Commission – **Action:** George will review
- GACCF AGM and Meeting Wednesday 7th June 7pm – this will be the first face to face meeting since March 2020 and the topics will be the new waste collection service and the Lord Lieutenant
- Forbes Park Phase 3 Road Naming – ESCC has been asked for its views on using the name "Calton" (which is the name of the hill south of Barmekin). Members felt that "James Soutter" should be used instead. **Action:** Fiona to respond to Council

Future Meeting Dates

- 20th July Garlogie Hall (IM to book and confirm)
- 7th September Echt Hall (GG to book and confirm)
- 19th October Milne Hall, Kirkton of Skene (FB to book and confirm)
- 30th November Lyne of Skene Hall (NM to book and confirm)
- 11th January Dunecht Hall (FB to book and confirm)
- 22nd February Garlogie Hall (IM to book and confirm)
- 4th April Echt Hall (GG to book and confirm)
- 16th May Milne Hall, Kirkton of Skene (FB to book and confirm)
- 27th June AGM Lyne of Skene Hall (NM to book and confirm)